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To the most Reverend the Arch-Bishops, *and the Right Reverend* Bishops, *Humbly Presented.*

My LORDS,

SINCE it hath pleased God of his great Mercy to convince me of my former Errors, it hath pleased him to incline my Mind to meditate upon, and to study the Holy Scriptures; and the more I have been intent hereupon, the more my Judgment has been confirmed in the Truths of the Christian Religion, professed by the Church of *England*; and thereupon I have thought it my Duty to Discover and Oppose destructive Errors, which tend to overthrow the Christian Faith, as well as to vindicate (according to my small Talent) my Mother-Church from those Calumnies undeservedly cast upon her by unsound Schismaticks, and I am afraid I may say self-condemn'd Hereticks, since my Reason tells me they must needs persist wilfully. But notwithstanding all this, and what else may be said on this Foot; I do not pretend to an extraordinary Call, but account my self under your Lordships Command, believing that as in the State, so in the Church their must be Government, and consequently Governors, to whom we ought in point of Duty to submit; so that if your Lordships shall command my Silence, I shall (as in Duty bound) readily obey; and so on the contrary, if my Labour herein shall be thought useful, in opposing the Errors of this Domineering Sect, I shall, with all Faithfulness, continue it, with due regard attending continually upon this very thing, having Respect to the necessary Circumstances such a Work require in this depraved Age; and thereupon, least this Book of mine now presented should not have met with that Reception, which I thank God it has, both your Lordships and the Clergy in general might safely have said you knew nothing of it; to that end also I mentioned the Bounty receiv'd of the Gentry, the Justices and Protestant Dissenters, to take off Occasion from them that seek Occasion; for as to the last they never gave me above 50 *s.* and the Gentry and Justices not 5 *l.* but my Support I thankfully acknowledge hath principally been the Bounty of your Lordships, the Universities, and particular Clergymen, for which I bless God on your Behalf, praying for your Health and Prosperity every way.

And having been exercised herein, I humbly beg Leave to give your Lordships an Account of what I have done since *December* 1698. And as I have never let mortal Eye see the last Letter to your Lordships, so I hope I shall be so cautious in this, as will preserve all in its due place; for I have a *Printer* I can confide in.

First, As to the Conference at *West-Dereham*, the *Quakers* were the Aggressors, they being before that very troublesome to the Clergy in that Country, by frequent Challenges. Upon which, both Mr. *Park* and Mr. *Meriton* wrote to me to come to their Assistance; we had a Meeting at my House, where was also Mr. *Archer*, our Minister, and Mr. *Erasmus Warren*, and my Advice was, that I might challenge them, and stand the Brunt, least any thing should happen that might reflect upon the Church; to which all agreed; I did so, and it was accepted: But on second Thoughts the *Quakers* threw off me, and turned the Challenge upon the Clergy; yea, to any of their Cloth to give them a Charge, and to appoint Time and Place; and they'd give them a Publick Trial: They did so; but then their *London* Leaders fearing the Consequence thereof, shuffled and evaded the same. Upon which a Petition was prepared, and sent up; but not being thought meet to be presented, they grew bold, and since then, have wrote divers Books; an Account of them that have come to my View are as follow, with the Numbers, which I think in Probability might be Printed.

I. *An Apology for the People called Quakers, and an Appeal to the Inhabitants of* Norfolk *and* Suffolk, *&c.* I suppose in number 2000 *a.*

II. *A Letter to the Clergy of the Diocese of* Norfolk *and* Suffolk, under the Sham-Name of a Member of the Church of *England*: Which was so universally spread in all the great Cities, Towns and Villages in *England* and *Wales*; not only in their ordinary Way of sending two to each Meeting throughout their Territories; but in *Norwich* I was told they were carry'd in Wheel-Barrows by whole Reams, (for it was but one Sheet) for that one County, and left in many Places with their Agents; nay, even with common Tapsters and Hostlers, to be dispersed *Gratis*; that I cannot think the Number Printed less than 30000 *b.*

III. *A Defence of the People called Quakers; being a Reply to the Priests in* Norfolk, *&c.* Not fewer, I think, than 5000 *c.*

IV. *An Apostate Conscience expos'd*; which also in some Places, tho' not about our Town, for there they'd not receive them. However I do suppose 1000 *d.*

V. *A Defence of the Apology for the People called Quakers in* Norfolk, *&c.* I guess in number 4000 *e.*

VI. *Truth and Innocency vindicated*, &c. I do think not so few in number as 5000 *f.*

VII. *Anguis Flagillatus*, &c. which contain 548 Pages in a large *Octavo*, beside the Preface. 500 of them well bound, were dispatch'd away to Members of Parliament to prepare them against this Session; 500 of them in one Ship sent to *Pensilvania*, besides those given to Judges, Lawyers, Justices, and indeed to Men of all Ranks; besides their ordinary way, Two to each Meeting, selling them in Shops in *London*, and by their Agents in the Country; and furnishing *Ireland*, *Scotland*, and other Plantations. I cannot think they printed less than 6 or 8000, but I will say but 5000. *g.* For they are a Rich and United Confederacy, and will compass Sea and Land, to make a Proselite.

2000 *a.*	
30000 *b.*	
5000 *c.*	
1000 *d.*	
4000 *e.*	
5000 *f.*	
5000 *g.*	
52000	

And now, *my Lords*, as I have given but a probable Guess of their Number, which, as I account, is 52000, it may be less or more; and in regard I see no Answer to any of them come out, I thought it my Duty to return some short Answer to them; and to disperse them as far as I could; some to *Oxford*, *Cambridge*, and other Towns; many I gave away at home, and at *Turners-Hall*, to the Parliament, and where I judged it needful, and this by the Assistance I have had, and my Credit raised thereby, which is as followeth, *viz.*

I. In answer to their first I wrote a Postscript to the *Norfolk* Clergy's Book, *A Brief Discovery*, &c. and at their Charge, number 1500 *a.*	1500 *a.*
II. A Broad Sheet, with Reasons for their Examination, 4000 *b.*	4000 *b.*
	2000 *c.*
III. In answer to their Third Book I wrote mine, intituled, *Quakerism expos'd to Publick Censure*, &c. in number 2000 *c.*	0500 *d.*
	2000 *e.*
	1500 *f.*
IV. In answer to their Fourth Book I wrote mine, *i. e.* Jezebel *Withstood, and her Daughter* Anne Docwra *Publickly Reproved*, &c. in number 0500 *d.* to disperse, besides that half part of it at the end of *Quakerism Expos'd*, &c.	11500

V. In answer to their Letter to the Clergy, which I was loth to undertake, knowing they could far better do it themselves; but whether it was that they do not think them considerable, or least once engaging should lay a Foundation for a chargeable Continuance; or whether they thought enough wrote already, I cannot tell; but at length, when I see it so universally spread, and read in their Meetings, I wrote a small Tract against it, stiled *The Ministry of the Church of* England *Vindicated and Distinguished from that of Quakerism*, &c. In number 2000 *e.*

VI. In Answer to their *Defence of their Apology*, by *John Feild*, and their *Truth and Innocency*, by *George Whitehead*, I wrote my *Modest Defence*, &c. of which I presented between 5 and 600 to the High Court of Parliament, *&c.* in number 1500 *f.* which in all make 11500.

VII. I have still something preparing for a Brief Answer to some material Falacies in their *Anguis Flagillatus*, which I do intend, unless I meet with Advice to the contrary from my Superiors, to let go, as a Forerunner to a more compleat Answer, which I do understand is preparing: But in regard I know, that altho' the Reverend Author of *The Snake in the Grass* can, and I believe will do it so well, as mine will scarce deserve to be called more than the Shadow of it, yet, *my Lords*, it may be this Twelve Months er'e his come out; and to have them Triumph till then, I cannot think it proper; and my Reason is, because most of the late

late Converts (of which there is Six of their Teachers, and I think above an Hundred of their Hearers) are very well diſpoſed to the Church of *England*, and I do think there is a great Work going on (I pray God proſper it) and that makes them rage, and thus beſtir themſelves; I have, ſince I came to *London*, had divers Letters from ſeveral Quakers in the Country, which are come off, giving me Thanks for my plain Dealing, ſome encouraging me never to leave till I have ſtript this young Harlot: But, my Lords, I know they are in their hot Zeal; and as your Lordſhips ſhall adviſe me by the Reverend Dr. *Stanly*, or Mr. *Altham*, or any other, or otherwiſe, as to your Wiſdom ſhall ſeem meet, ſo ſhall I proceed; and if nothing be ſaid to the contrary by any Body, I ſhall take it for granted, that I may go on.

And now, *my Lords*, I have but one thing more to mention, which is, That if my Endeavours and Labours do find Acceptance at your Lordſhips Hands, that you would pleaſe to let me have a preſent Aſſiſtance to pay what I owe for Paper, Printing and Binding, which is near 40 *l.* And if what I have done be not ſo well done as you could wiſh, I ſtill beg your Favour to accept the Will for the Deed; or if it be but part of it, ſo as to give them Content; I deſire nothing but to live: And as your Lordſhips have been charitably inclined, and very Bountiful towards my Support, ſo do I hope I ſhall never miniſter Occaſion for the contrary, who am, my Lords,

Your Lordſhips moſt Humble,

Feb. *the* 16th. 1699. *and moſt Obedient Servant,*

Fran. Bugg.

4 / 3 C. Sup. Sm.